

## Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

AID-05 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-03 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03

CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 STR-04 STRE-00 /087 W

----- 006455

R 050825Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3724

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 8574

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, KS

SUBJECT: NATIONAL ASSEMBLY VETOES TESTIMONY BILL AND BEGINS  
CONSIDERATION OF BUDGET

REF: SEOUL 8308 (R 280715Z OCT 75)

BEGIN SUMMARY: NDP HAS KEPT US PRESSURE ON VARIETY OF FRONTS  
IN NATIONAL ASSEMBLY, AND PRESS COVERAGE PARTICULARLY OF  
BUDGET ISSUE HAS BEEN SUBSTANTIAL. END SUMMARY.

1. DURING WEEKEND OF NOVEMBER 1, NATIONAL ASSEMBLY REPEALED  
TESTIMONY BILL, WHICH WAS CAUSE OF POLITICAL BROUHAHA LAST  
JUNE AND WHICH ROKG PREVIOUSLY VETOED, BY 130 TO 40 VOTE,  
PREDICTABLY ALONG PARTY LINES (REF). ROKG CLAIMED YUSHIN  
CONSTITUTION RESERVED GOVERNMENT RIGHT TO RESTRICT APPEARANCE  
OF ANYONE WHOSE TESTIMONY INVOLVES NATIONAL SECURITY. ON  
OTHER HAND, NDP'S YU CHI-SONG MAINTAINED BILL, WHICH BOTH  
PARTIES HAD PREVIOUSLY PASSED, WAS GEARED ONLY TO WATCH FOR  
IRREGULARITIES IN OPERATIONS AND CONDUCT OF GOVERNMENT. HE  
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CLAIMED THAT DRP HAD PASSED BILL IN RETURN FOR NDP SUPPORT

OF CIVIL DEFENSE, DEFENSE TAX AND PUBLIC SECURITY LAWS. THUS, DRP HAD RENEGED ON "ARRANGEMENT." YUCHONGHOE PARTY EXECUTIVE KWON HYU-SOP TOLD EMBOFF THAT RULING PARTIES HAD NOT ORIGINALLY CONSIDERED "ULTIMATE SCOPE" OF TESTIMONY BILL BUT HAD SUPPORTED IT AS ANTI-CORRUPTION MEASURE AND THIS HAD LED TO GOVERNMENT PARTY GAFF.

2. KWON ALSO CONFIRMED THAT ASSEMBLY WILL NOW RECESS FROM PLENARY SESSIONS UNTIL NOVEMBER 17 WHEN IT WILL CONSIDER 2,043.9 BILLION WON (ROUGHLY TWO BILLION, NINE HUNDRED SEVENTY MILLION U.S.) BUDGET WHICH DRP HOPES WILL BE PASSED BY DECEMBER 2. THERE HAVE BEEN EXTENSIVE PRESS REPORTS ON NDP'S BUDGET STRATEGY AND PROPOSALS TO CUT INCOME, BUSINESS, CORPORATION AND DEFENSE TAXES AMOUNTING TO 142.9 BILLION WON.

3. IN OTHER ACTIVITY ON NOVEMBER 3, NDP'S SONG WON-YONG AND HAN YONG-SU ALLEGED THAT ROKG'S HOMELAND RESERVE CORPS WAS BEING USED BY GOVERNMENT FOR POLITICAL PURPOSES, NOTING CORPS HAD SPONSORED ADVERTISEMENT IN PRESS CONDEMNING KIM OK-SON'S ATTACK ON ROKG. TONGA ILBO REPORTED THIS STORY IN NOVEMBER 4 EDITIONS. NDP ALSO CONFRONTED NATIONAL DEFENSE MINISTER OVER KOREAN VETERAN'S ASSOCIATION ANTI-KIM YONG-SAM ADVERTISEMENTS AND THIS HAS BEEN REPORTED.

4. MAEIL SINMUN NOTED THAT NDP'S KIM SU-HAN HAD QUESTIONED HOME MINISTER ON POLICE ARREST OF KIM YONG SAM'S SECRETARY AND OTHERS ON OCTOBER 28. (SECRETARY HAS SINCE BEEN RELEASED WITH CHARGES, PRESUMABLY FOR BEING IN VIOLATION OF EMERGENCY MEASURE NO. 9. STILL PENDING.) ACCORDING TO THIS PRESS STORY, HOME MINISTER DURING SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET HEARINGS SAID SINCE HE HAD COME TO HOME MINISTRY, "THE MOST DIFFICULT PROBLEM FOR ME IS TO GET CONCRETE INFORMATION ON MATTERS RELATED TO CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION. FRANKLY SPEAKING, I DON'T KNOW UNDER WHAT ARTICLE THEY WERE ARRESTED." HE INDICATED HE HAD ANTICIPATED QUESTION BUT HAD NO BETTER ANSWER AT PRESENT.

COMMENT: NDP APPEARS SET ON PROBING ROKG IN VARIOUS AREAS IN SHOTGUN APPROACH, TRYING TO REGAIN A LITTLE OF THE GROUND IT LOST AFTER THE FORCED RESIGNATION OF KIM OK-SON. WHILE IT CONFIDENTIAL

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HAS NOT BEEN ALTOGETHER COMPLETE, PRESS COVERAGE ON NDP EFFORTS HAS BEEN GREATER THAN WE WOULD HAVE ANTICIPATED, PARTICULARLY ON NDP'S CAMPAIGN TO REDUCE BUDGET, WHICH IS A POPULAR CAUSE. GOVERNMENT ASSEMBLYMEN CONCEDE THAT BUDGET IS POLITICAL PROBLEM, AND OUR GUESS IS THAT GOVERNMENT MAY CONCLUDE IT POLITIC TO MAKE A CONCESSION OR TWO IN THIS AREA. SNEIDER

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## Message Attributes

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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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